

The GARZETTE

February, 2002

Volume 11, Issue 12



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From the Oval Office

By Susan Swiderski, AF4FO, GARS President

Wow. It's hard to believe that this is my last column as the president of GARS. Guess that stuff about "time flying when you're having fun" really is true. Thanks to all of you. It's been a real blast.



Despite the fact that there was a Skywarn class the same evening as our January club meeting, we still had a real good turn-out. It was great to see all of you and to do a little post-holiday "catching

up". We learned that JACK SHIPLEY, W4UVQ, marked his 50th anniversary as a ham on the second of January. Quite a milestone, huh? Congratulations, Jack. And congratulations to BOB

VARONE, W4ETN, too, for scoring that unbelievable contact with North Korea.... quite a coup! (We'll all cross our fingers that it'll be officially "recognized", so it'll "count" for you.)

Let me ask you. How many of you have ever received a "good operator" card from an official observer? Despite the fact that they're about as scarce as an unassembled Heathkit, ANDREA HARTLAGE, KG4IUM, got one from an OO in

(Continued on page 3)

Attention GARS Members

We are looking for someone (or more than one person) to volunteer to chair the 2002 GARS Field Day. This is the main event of the year and we need your help. Please contact Barry Zoll, N1TOQ at 678-339-2605 or N1TOQ@arrl.net.

Thanks and see you at Field Day!

THE GARZETTE

The GARZETTE is the official monthly organ of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society serving its members and other persons interested in the advancement of the amateur radio art.

Original articles, art, and photos are invited and encouraged. Previously copyrighted submissions cannot be accepted for reprinting unless permission from the appropriate publisher is provided in writing along with the information being submitted. If reprints are from publications allowing their unrestricted use, please include a copy of the printed permission contained in the publication.

If possible, bring your articles to the monthly meeting in Microsoft Word format or by email to N1TOQ@arrl.net. Artwork can be accepted in most any graphics format and can be submitted via email to the same address. Alternate means of submittal can be arranged when necessary.

In keeping with the amateur radio spirit, permission is hereby granted for the reproduction of *The GARZETTE* articles by other amateur radio club newsletters provided that proper credit is given to the individual author and to *The GARZETTE*.

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The GARZETTE is published each month with the assistance of Hal Manning, who prints the news letter. Rick Patchin, KD4RFK, does the final production work on *The GARZETTE* by folding & labeling. Dan Keohan KF4YSU, stamps and gets the end product to the Post Office each month. Many thanks to each of them and all article contributors.

Deadline for submissions is the Week of the Monthly Meeting for inclusion in the following month's issue.

For any additional information contact:

Newsletter Editor:
Barry Zoll, N1TOQ
(770)277-5175
N1TOQ@arrl.net

All correspondence relating to articles posted in *The GARZETTE* or for information concerning advertising rates should be directed to the following address:

Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society
P.O. Box 88
Lilburn, GA 30048
Attn: Newsletter Editor



GARS Elmers

Many of us Hams got interested in the hobby as a result of some influence and experienced Ham had on us. In my case, a ham stopped at my dealership back in the mid-80's to arrange a repair on his outboard motor. He had a funny looking license tag on his yellow Corvette and I inquired what it was. Little did I know, he would be my "Elmer".

The GARS organization is blessed with a lot of talented members that are willing to share their knowledge. The following list is made up of those individuals willing to serve as Elmers. Hopefully, this list will grow, and in time, maybe we'll get more who are willing to add a particular area of expertise.

KF4KSE David Moon (770) 279-9924 mobile radio installation
KG4IUM Andrea Hartlage (770) 963-2715 making QSL cards
N1TOQ Barry Zoll (678)-339-2605 Generators and Standby Power

Bill Carter, KG4FXG, Mobile CW

GENERAL INFORMATION:

WE5O Ron Langston (770) 569-8354
N1TWX Win Jackson (404) 869-1347
W4WKP Johnnie Fearon (770) 466-6401
WB2YAD Duane
WB9JSW, Carl
K4MJK Mike Kovak
K4CB Carter Bennett (770) 923-5446
W4ADE Ade Wirth (770) 614-3743
K4HBI Mike Swiderski (770) 449-0369
W8KJM, Barney Barnes (APRS)

If you'd like to be a GARS Elmer, please email the editor of the Garzette at N1TOQ@arrl.net or call 678-339-2605.

Tech Fest 2002

By Kile E. Watt

Lawrenceville GA (USA) - The Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society (GARS) will be holding its annual Tech Fest on Saturday, March 23, 2002 at the Central Baptist Church on Gwinnett Drive in Lawrenceville. The event will run from 11 AM until 3 PM and will feature displays showing the different areas of amateur radio. Topics displayed in the past are:

- Computer Programming of Radios
- 12 Volt DC Theory
- How to use a "tube type" HF rig
- Emergency Power
- Antenna Construction
- Slow Scan Television
- Satellites
- ARRL
- ARES
- GARS
- PSK31
- Live demo of a Service Monitor
- New Radio Technology
- Activities for Children
- Logging Software
- And more...

Also, they will host the annual GARS Chili Cook-off to see who can hold the title as the Chili King (or Queen) of Gwinnett County. For those with non-cast iron stomachs, we will be serving burgers, dogs, and more. Please bring a side dish or dessert

GARS still has a few spots open for displays so if you'd like to share your knowledge with others, please contact Barry Zoll, N1TOQ, Tech Fest chairman at 678-339-2605 or by email at N1TOQ@arrl.net

STAY CONNECTED!

- Call the nets
- Attend the Meetings
- Use the Email List



GARS

Officers

President
Susan Swiderski, AF4FO

Vice President

Sid Williams, K4SID

Secretary

Sharon Carter, KG4HKO

Treasurer

Dan Keohan, KF4YSU

Activities Manager

Bill Ahls, ABOKF

Board Of Directors

Howie Gould, W9HG

Ron Langston, WE5O

David Adcock, KA4KKF

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Membership Co-Chairs

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Scott Hartlage, KF4PWI

Public Information Officer

Carol Gann, KG4ETR

Newsletter Editor

Barry Zoll, N1TOQ, 770-277-5175

License Trustee

Randy Drescher, K4HS (770)925-9549

Repeater Chairman

Eddie Foust, WD4JEM

Tech Fest

Barry Zoll, N1TOQ (770)277-5175

WAS/VUCC CARD CHECKER,

Don Ernest, KS4WR

Net Manager

Susan Swiderski, AF4FO (770)449-0369

Field Day

OPEN

Education Coordinator

Win Jackson, N1TWX (404)869-1347

Legal Counsel

Bill Brandon, WW4BB (770)554-9998

Apparel Manager

Bill Carter, KG4FXG

Holiday Party Chairman

Marty Fowler, KE4MLH

QSL Manager

Ade Wirth, W4ADE (770)614-3743

Webmaster

Mike, K4MJK

Scholarship Chairman

Carter Wood, AG4LK

CW Net Manager

Ron Langston, WE5O

◆◆◆

Richards Middle School Radio Club Update

Bill Carter KG4FXG, was teaching Chapter 2 of Now You're Talking. He brought in his FT-817 so the students could see a qrp rig. He also programmed 2 meter repeaters in it. Well, he decided it would be good for them to make some contacts - right in the classroom, and with 5/8 wave antenna, they were solid into the repeater. The kids loved it, and he intends to bring it to each meeting so that more kids can talk on the repeater. The club members loved talking to the kids and they are so kind to them.

The best part...

He was teaching them about forward and reflected power and knew the concept was hard. So he started telling them how forward power is like when you flush a toilet. And how we don't want reflected power (the toilet backing up). Real important stuff if you QRP! Well, Sandy Donahue, W4RU and Mike Swiderski, K4HBI, just looked at him. Unsure about their reaction, Bill gently asked what they thought of his explanation and they thought it was great.

Here are some pictures from the classroom. Thanks Bill!



GWINNETT AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

January, 2002 Meeting Minutes

January 17, 2002

Submitted by Sharon Carter, KG4HKO, GARS Secretary

President Susan Swiderski, AF4FO, opened the meeting at 7:35 PM.

· Introduction of officers Sid, K4SID, vice president; Dan, KF4YSU, treasurer; Bill, AB0KF, activities manager and Sharon, KG4HKO, secretary. Also introduced were membership co-chairs Scott KF4PWI and Andrea KG4IUM.

· Introduction of visitors: Ralph Siebert K1TV, Michael Ivey KG4QDH, Colin Glennan KG4QGD, B.J. Smith KA4DOV

· Big Project Update: thanks for support, club will purchase educational library for RMS and SMS as good-faith gesture

· Treasurer's Report

· Activities -- Next Month -- elections, Gene Blackburn Atlanta Teen Radio Club

· Repeaters -- Carter Bennett, and Mike Swiderski got generator going over holidays, Eddie has now had points replaced. Glitch in controller repaired, too. Site Lease agreements for ARC and MATPARC mailed on 1/16. Future work -- change out mast to two sections of Rohn at Goshen

· Girl Scout Thinking Day -- Feb 17 at Central Gwinnett HS -- 2:00-4:00

· New Members voted in -- Michael Ivey KG4QDH and Colin Glennan KG4QGD

· Scholarship Committee -- Carter Wood will chair

· TechFest -- Barry Zoll, Chair -- March 23 11:00 - 3:00 at Central Baptist Church

· Ray Back -- looking for ideas for an Eagle Scout project

· Dog Show -- Feb 1, 2, & 3 - contact Ike or Marty -- Lawrenceville, Sawnee Mountain, and Conyers Kennel Clubs -- \$ split 50-50 between GARS and Gwinnett ARES

· Recognitions: Hams of the Year -- Carol and Victor Gann, New ARRL Affiliated Club Coordinator -- Mary Ahls

· Field Day -- Need new chair; t-shirts -- deadline for submitting designs is Feb. meeting, judge and order by end of month

· Donation of TenTec Omni D from wife of SK in NJ -- GARS will pay shipping and handling

· Special Olympics -- January 25, 26, & 27 -- Todd is coordinating communicators -- sign-up through Susan

· National Kidney Foundation Walk -- has been re-scheduled for October to avoid conflicts for ham operators

· New DEC for GEMA -- Bill Carter replaces Robert Tyler

· Statewide ARES Meeting -- Feb 9 -- GA State Training Center in Forsyth, GA

· Nominations of Officers for coming year: President -- Bob Varone W4ETN, VP -- Victor Gann W4VEG, Secretary -- Morgan Ringold KG4PAN, Treasurer -- Dan Keohan, KF4YSU Activities -- Bill Ahls, AB0KF

· Need someone to take over bringing drinks to club meetings for scholarship fund

· Net manager needed for want, sell, and swap net

· Drawing -- HRO cert -- Harry Holmes, Carlton McPherson

· Break for Eyeball QSO's at 8:55

Editor's Note - Thanks to Sharon for her efforts to support the club as Secretary and in other areas. She has also formed a radio club at the Richards Middle School and has been instrumental in bringing children into the world of amateur radio. Although she is stepping down from her position on the Executive Committee, we hope that she'll continue to play a big part in GARS and our amateur community. Thanks Sharon!

A Little Bit of Humor

Submitted by Paul McInnish, K4BET

As most of you know, I have been struggling for 7 years to get my tower up.... finally got it up and, sure enough, I hurt myself! My insurance company asked me for more information regarding my work-related accident claim before they would remit any funds.

This was my response to their request for detailed information explaining the injuries and reason for the claim: I put "poor planning" as the cause of my accident.

I am an amateur radio operator and was working on the top section of my brand new 80 foot tower, when completing my work, I discovered that I had, over the course of several trips up the tower, taken up about 300 pounds of tools and hardware. Rather than carry the materials down by hand, meaning several more trips up and down the tower, I decided to lower all the items, all at once, by using a rope, a pulley and a small wooden barrel.

Securing the rope at ground level, I climbed to the top of the tower and loaded the tools into the barrel. Then I climbed back down to the ground level and untied the rope, holding it very tightly to ensure a slow descent of the 300 pounds of tools. Please note in block number 11 of the accident report that I only weigh 155 pounds. Due to my surprise at being jerked off the ground so suddenly, I lost my presence of mind and forgot to let go of the rope.

I proceeded, at a rather rapid rate of speed, up the side of the tower. In the vicinity of the 40 foot level, I met the barrel coming down. This will explain my fractured skull and broken collarbone. Slowed only slightly, I continued my rapid ascent, not stopping until the fingers of my right hand were two knuckles deep into the pulley.... this explaining the four broken and smashed fingers.

I regained my presence of mind and was able to hold onto the rope in spite of my agonizing pain. At the same time, however, the barrel of tools hit the ground and the bottom burst fell out of the barrel. Now devoid of the weight of the tools, the barrel now only weighed approximately 20 pounds. I refer you again to my weight in block number 11.

As you might imagine, I began a rather rapid descent down the side of the tower. In the vicinity of the 40 foot level, I met the barrel coming back up the side of the tower. This will account for the two fractured ankles and the lacerations of my legs and lower body. The encounter with the barrel

slowed me enough to lessen my injuries when I fell onto the pile of tools on the ground; so only three vertebrae and one leg were fractured.

I am sorry to report, however, that as I lay on the tools, in pain, unable to stand and watching the empty barrel 80 feet above me, I again lost my presence of mind and let go of the rope.....

Attached is a picture of the pile of tools and hardware at the base of the tower....

Tribute to our VE's

Pictures Submitted by Howard Gould, W9HG

There is a group of "unsung heros" who serve our hobby (public service) in a very quiet way. Without them, none of us would be licensed. They make it easy for us to take tests by offering sites that are conveniently located and at times that we all can make. They uphold the integrity of Amateur Radio and the licensing system by properly administering exams and ensuring that the results are valid. These men and women receive no financial compensation for their efforts, but thrive with the satisfaction knowing that their work is appreciated and will keep Amateur Radio strong for many years to come. Thanks VE's.



From the Oval Office

(Continued from page 1)

Michigan, who was favorably impressed with the way that our favorite 12-year-old was handling herself in a CW QSO from SciTrek, using callsign W4WOW. How appropriate. I mean, what better suits this young lady than....WOW? She's something else, isn't she?

Talking about SciTrek, (we were, weren't we?) thanks go out to my better half MIKE, K4HBI, and to BILL AMOS, N4ELU, who spent the day taking stock of the antenna system there. Thanks to these two fine fellas, the problem areas have been documented and a plan of action to improve conditions can be formulated. Also, thanks to NORM SCHKLAR, WA4ZXV, who's volunteered to serve as coordinator for the GARS' days at SciTrek. (2nd Sunday of each month) If you'd like to help demonstrate amateur radio to museum visitors and "play" on the air with the W4WOW callsign, get in touch with Norm.... or check out the neat link he's set up for the GARS webpage.

While I'm on a real roll here with the thanks, special thanks go out to CARTER BENNETT, K4CB, and again, to MIKE, K4HBI, for spending a Sunday afternoon at the Lawrenceville site trouble-shooting the generator, and getting it running with a temporary fix, (improvise, adapt, and overcome...) and to EDDIE FOUST, WD4JEM, who later replaced the points, plugs, and condenser. (Before you ask, the possibility of replacing the points with a solid state unit was investigated already.... not available for this model generator.) Eddie and his repeater crew do such an excellent job of maintaining our club repeaters, and sometimes we forget to let them know how much we appreciate all of their hard work. So, thanks, guys.

If you'd like to offer up a design to be considered for this year's FIELD DAY TEE SHIRTS, please bring your design to the February club meeting. We'll judge the selections there, and get the order placed for the shirts early enough this year to have them well in advance of field day.

Also, at the February meeting, we will be voting for our new club officers. As of now, the following people have agreed to run for office: President: Bob Varone, W4ETN; VP: Victor Gann, W4VEG; Secretary: Morgan Ringold, KG4PAN; Treasurer: Dan Keohan, KF4YSU; and Activities: Bill Ahls, AB0KF. We'll also accept nominations from the floor, so if you're interested, please don't hesitate to throw your hat into the ring.

The next executive meeting will be on February 11, at No. 1 Super Chinese Buffet on Hwy. 120... eat at 6, meet at 7. It's your last opportunity to meet with this group, so come on out for our "swan song". The club meeting will be on February 21st, where GENE BLACKBURN, N4UJ, will be presenting a fun and nostalgic program on the "Atlanta Teenage Radio Club". So, come on out and spend a fun evening with the GARS family.

Well, folks. This is it. I'm outta here. It's been a lotta fun, but... this is AF4FO, signing clear. 73 and QRT

(Editor's Note: Thank you Susan for the great leadership during this last year and your timely submission of your monthly article. We look forward to great things from you in your new position with the ARRL)

A Ham Operator's Credo

I Will Learn to Listen — and Listen to Learn

I must remember that hearing is a gift, while listening is learned.
I will always rank listening as paramount in all I do in Amateur Radio.
I will always abide by the "TLS" rule: Think, listen, speak.
I will develop and depend on my natural listening abilities.
I will listen in order to learn correct procedure and protocol.
I will always remember: the bands are never dead for the expert listener.

I Will Master Protocol and Procedure

Mastering on-the-air protocol will take precedent over equipment operation.
Prosigns, Qsignals, phonetics and abbreviations will be my second language.
I will learn the basics of traffic handling, net operation, emergencies.

I Will Respect Mother Nature's Role

I will study the pivotal roles the ionosphere and propagation play in radio.
I will learn how weather, time of day, location, time of year affects radio signals.
I will learn the meanings of bandwidth and beamwidth, ground effect, aurora, scatter, ducting, skip, MUF, solar flux, E-layers.

I Will Appreciate My Ability to Compromise

I hold that compromise and resourcefulness are Ham traditions.
I will remember that "making-do" can often be the easiest route to operating.
I will always remember that being on the air is the true spirit of Hamming.

I Will Share What I Learn

I will commit to self-study of Amateur Radio – from technology to protocol. I will openly share the knowledge I gain with anyone who is interested.

These things I hold to be true for all radio amateurs – now and in the future. –
A Grateful Operator

By J.D. Harper, K6KSR

Submitted by David Adcock, KA4KKF. Reprinted with permission by World Radio Magazine

Metro Atlanta Club Meetings

First Tuesday

Metro Atlanta Telephone Pioneers

Old Hickory House
5490 Chamblee/Dunwoody Rd, Dunwoody
Dutch dinner is at 6:30 PM, followed by meeting.
Talk In 145.410(-)

Kennehoochee ARC

First United Methodist Church in Marietta
Meeting begins at 7:30 PM
Talk In 146.880(-)

First Thursday

Atlanta Radio Club

American Red Cross Building, Lindberg Plaza
Meeting is at 7:30 PM
Talk In -146.820(-)

N.E. Georgia ARC

Jefferson Civic Center
Off of Memorial Dr. toward Winder from
Jefferson
Meeting is at 6:30 PM
Talk In - 147.225(+)

North Fulton Amateur Radio League

Shoney's Restaurant
Holcomb Bridge Road at grimes Bridge Road
Dinner at 6:30 PM, meeting at 7:30 PM
Talk In - 145.47(-)

Second Thursday

Alford Memorial Radio Club

Killian Hall, Killian Hill Road
Lilburn
Dinner at 6:00 PM, meeting at 7:30 PM
Talk In - 146.760(-)

Second Saturday

East Atlanta LAN

St. Patrick's Episcopal Church
Dunwoody
Meeting is at 10:00 AM
Talk In - 145.410(-) and 443.025(+)

Third THURSDAY

Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society

Central Baptist Church
Gwinnett Drive, Lawrenceville
Meeting begins at 7:30 PM in the fellowship hall.
Talk In -147.075(+) and 444.525(+)

First Saturday

North GA QRP Club

Wieuca Baptist Church on Peachtree Rd/Wieuca,
10 AM
Tues. Night Nets, PSK31 at 8:00 PM 3580 khz,
9:00 PM FM net on 145.41 mhz ,
CW at 9:30 PM 3568.4 khz
Contact Russ AE4NY.....770-457-0371

Metro Atlanta VE Exam Schedule

GARS publishes Metro Atlanta area VE exam schedules as a service and is not responsible for errors or changes. Call and confirm schedules before going. All sessions are walk-in. Take copies of current license and certificate of completed elements with you to all sessions.

First Sunday

WCARS VEC
2:00 PM
(Except July and September)
Johnson High School
3305 Poplar Springs RD, Gainesville
Terry Jones, W4TL (770)967-6364

First Saturday

9:00AM
Clayton County Emergency
Management Building
7496 N. McDonough St., Jonesboro
George White, KN4NG (770)361-6850

Second Tuesday

7:00PM
Walton EMC
3645 Lenora Church Rd, Snellville
Wayne Taylor, WD4CCA
(770)498-7759

Second Saturday, Odd Months

CA VEC
8:30 AM
Stone Mountain Methodist Church
5312 West Mountain St.
Stone Mountain
Bob Verone, W4ETN
(770)978-3179

Third Saturday

CA VEC
9:00AM
Marietta First United Methodist Church
Room 305, 56 Whitlock Ave
Marietta
Larry Huff, WA4CQZ
(770)955-3171

Fourth Tuesday

ARRL VEC
7:00 PM
United Way Service Center
6279 Fairburn Road, Douglasville
Jessie Clower, KB4WFK
(770)942-6466.

Fourth Friday

W5YI VEC
7:00 PM
St. John Neumann Church
801 Tom Smith Road
Lilburn
Headphones Provided!
Howie Gould, W9HG
(770)921-8362

♦♦♦

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GARS Communication System

6 Meter Repeater

53.110 (-1 MHz) MHz
82.5 PL

Main Repeater Site

Oak Street, Lawrenceville

2 Meter Repeater

147.075(+) MHz
82.5 PL Tone

Main Repeater Site

Oak Street, Lawrenceville

Backup Repeater Site

Lanier Mountain, Snellville

Remote Receive Sites

Bogan Road, Buford
Goshen Springs Road, Norcross
Lanier Mountain, Snellville

70 Cm Repeater

444.525(+) MHz
82.5 PL

Main Repeater Site

Lanier Mountain, Snellville

Remote Receive Sites

Under construction
Bogan Road, Buford
Goshen Springs Road, Norcross

APRS

144.390 -- 1200 Baud
W4GR/Relay



WORLDWIDE DISTRIBUTION



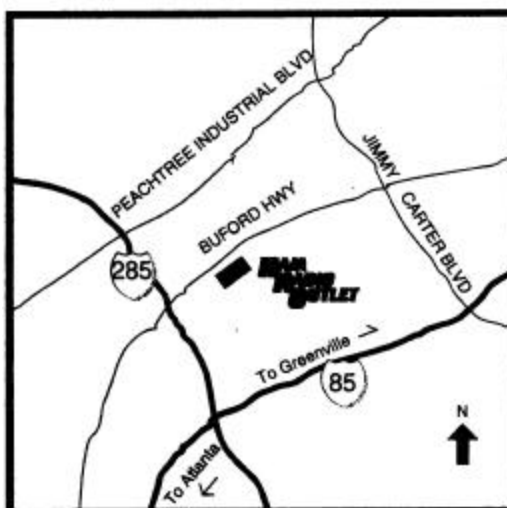
HAM RADIO OUTLET

Mark Holmes

Manager
KJ4VO

6071 Buford Hwy.
Atlanta, GA 30340 (Doraville)
770-263-0700, 1-800-444-7927
Fax 770-263-9548

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Doraville, 1 mi. north of I-285
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(800) 444-7927
24 Hour FAX (770) 263-9548
Email: atlanta@hamradio.com

Mark KJ4VO Mgr
David KE4VDH
Mark W4MMS
David KE4QME
Bill KF8AZ
Mike N4MLB
Tim W4EGT
Dale W4GCL
Josh W4JDH

Alinco
Icom
Japan Radio Corp
Kenwood
Premier/ADI
Yaesu
Alpha Delta
Arrow
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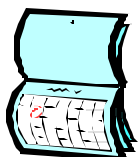
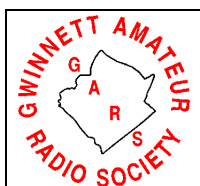
305 Sharon Ind. Way
Suwanee, Georgia 30024
945-0161

Import and Domestic
Unibody and Frame Repair ws

Marty Fowler, KE4MLH

Mark Justice

Receive the **Garzette** via email...
contact Scott Hartlage,
KF4PWI@arrl.net



February 2002

1-3 Dog Show

Venture Crew SW Radio
Building

Executive committee

21st GARS Club Meeting

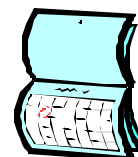
March 2002

Venture Crew Caving Trip

Executive Committee

21st GARS Club Meeting

23rd Tech Fest



Meeting Time
&
Location

3rd Thursday, 7:30 PM
Central Baptist
Church,
Gwinnett Drive,
Lawrenceville
Talk in 147.075(+) MHz
82.5 PL Tone